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THE SHENCHOWFU STATION, CHINA

A CRISIS THE CHALLENGE

**Board of Foreign
Missions of the
Reformed Church in
the United States**

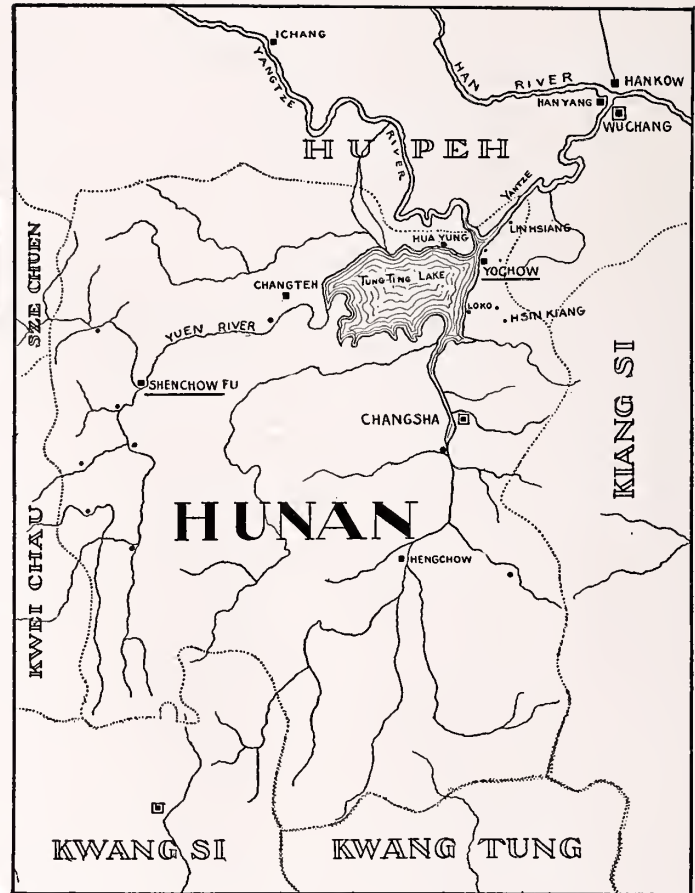


¶After a struggle of five years to keep up hope in the face of despair, our brave Missionaries in China have come before the Church through the Board of Foreign Missions with a strong appeal for immediate reinforcements. There is no uncertain tone tost their latest proposition. It is as sound as it is startling. We must meet the issue sooner or later, and now is the time to do it.

¶A study of the map will show us the field. It is in one of the largest, richest and most open Provinces in China. Think of the number of people in the province—TWENTY-TWO MILLIONS! There are less than TWO HUNDRED MISSIONARIES, INCLUDING WIVES.

¶Fortunate indeed is the location of our work and if we will now take the opportunity by the hand there is no reason why we should not rapidly lead thousands to Christ.

¶Our two stations in China, Yochow and Shenchowfu, are both in the Province of Hunan. There are a dozen or more smaller cities and towns in the surrounding country districts. In each of the districts where our stations are located, there is a population approximately of 1,500,000.



THE SHENCHOWFU STATION

THERE is no Mission in all China with a finer property than our Station at Shenchowfu. It is ideal in every respect. The compound is on a high elevation, with beautiful surroundings, and overlooking a valley of scenic charms. The buildings are sufficient for school, hospital and evangelistic purposes. But the workers are too few. Our brave band of missionaries has tried to hold the fort, in the hope that the Church would supply and support more laborers. This has not been done. In the face of despair, they have issued a strong appeal to the Church through the Board of Foreign Missions, which is as sound as it is strong. There is no uncertain tone in this latest appeal. It is not a threat, but an entreaty. The hour is at hand when the Church must meet the issue.

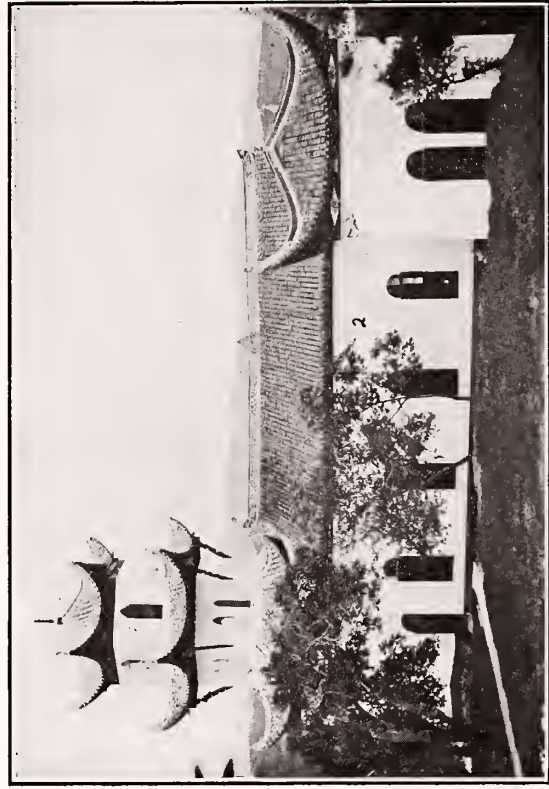
That our pastors and people may be able to act intelligently in regard to the situation, the facts are here placed at their disposal. **The question that the Church only can decide is: Shall we abandon the Shenchowfu Station, or properly equip our China Mission?**

The location of our field is in the Province of Hunan, one of the largest, richest and most progressive in the New Republic. Think of the number of people in that Province—**TWENTY-TWO MILLION!** And then think of the few workers! There are less than **TWO HUNDRED** missionaries, including wives. What are these among so many?

Our responsibility as a Church and as a Mission is with the 3,500,000 souls. Do we realize how much our few struggling missionaries need our help in order to enter the open door of opportunity? Oh! what possibilities there are waiting our Church in China if we will only hear and heed the call for help.

THE FIELD AND ITS POSSIBILITIES

Our two Stations, Yochow and Shenchowfu, occupy the same strategic positions in the Province of Hunan as do Philadelphia and Pittsburgh in the State of Pennsylvania. What corporation would think of sacrificing either of these important centres of commercial activity? Surrounding the two cities, where our missionaries reside, there are a dozen or more small cities or towns with a population, in both districts, approximately of 1,500,000.



NEW CHURCH, SHENCHOWFU. CHINA



CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS, CHURCH, SHENCHOWFU, CHINA

T H E S H E N C H O W F U S T A T I O N

The members of the Church can easily see how great a work is possible in these two fields. In both fields, the central cities can be occupied by missionary evangelists and all outlying cities, villages and country districts occupied by native evangelists and helpers. The two central boarding schools for boys at Yochow City and Shenchowfu should be fed by day schools, established in every evangelistic station. Although it seems impossible to establish day schools for girls at present, yet as the Mission occupies the field, many girls will come to the girls' schools at Yochow City and Shenchowfu. Dispensary work should also be opened in every evangelistic station, all critical cases to be taken to the hospitals of the respective central cities, Yochow City and Shenchowfu. The three millions of people can thus be reached by all our missionary agencies and by intensive effort a great harvest is possible. In addition, the Miao districts in the Shenchowfu field will undoubtedly be opened after the subsidence of the present political unrest, thus, as has been proved in other fields, opening a great opportunity for work to our Mission.

THE PRESENT FORCE

If this work is possible, is it reasonable to expect a few workers to do it? At Shenchowfu we have two teachers in the Boys' School, two lady teachers in the Girls' School, one physician and one nurse in the hospital, and one evangelistic missionary. At Yochow, we have three teachers in the Boys' School, two lady teachers in the Girls' School, one physician and two nurses in the hospital, and two evangelistic missionaries. But, as is the case with all Missions, owing to furloughs and broken health, there are always missionaries in the home land, thus reducing the number of workers on the field.

The missionaries are of one mind that the work is not progressing as favorably as it should. This fact cannot be laid at the door of the personnel of the Mission. No body of workers could have done better under the circumstances. They have been laboring against heavy odds. After struggling for years, they are now coming to the Church through the Board with the proposition that either the Church should supply, without delay, a sufficient force of workers and the proper equipment, or abandon the Shenchowfu Station, and concentrate our work at the Yochow Station.



Boys'
School
Shenchowfu
China

T H E S H E N C H O W F U S T A T I O N

The members of the Board of Foreign Missions would regard it as a fatality to our work of missions at home and abroad if we must surrender the Shenchowfu Station, with its valuable property, that has come to the Church as a free gift from God. Let us not forget that our Church has an investment of only a few thousand dollars in the entire plant. The bulk of the money came to the Mission through the Indemnity Fund of the British Government and the personal gift of Dr. William Kelly.

INVENTORY OF PROPERTY

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|----------|-------------------|
| Six and one-half acres of land, comprising the three compounds, four buildings, viz.: Men's Hospital, Women's Hospital, Boys' School, Girls' School, together with Outbuildings | \$25,000.00 | Doctor's Residence | 3,000.00 | |
| Evangelist's Residence | 2,000.00 | Church | 3,500.00 | |
| | | Hospital Outfit | 2,000.00 | |
| | | Women's Guest-room and Gate-house .. | 85.00 | |
| | | Safe | 115.00 | |
| | | | | ————— \$35,700.00 |

There are several reasons why our pastors and people should lend every possible help at this time, so that the Board can provide at the earliest moment the additional workers and needful equipment for the China Mission.

SIX REASONS

- I. There are legal complications in the way of an abandonment of the Shenchowfu Station.
- II. There is a moral obligation resting upon us as a Church in the acceptance of this trust of which a mere transfer to another Mission would hardly relieve us.
- III. It would be a confession of weakness on our part and a lack of confidence in the ability of the Church. Who will say that the Church is not able to do all that the Mission asks of her at this time?
- IV. It would be the surrender of one of the two most strategic positions in the Province of Hunan.
- V. It will not reduce the expenses of the China Mission to any appreciable extent. To transfer the Shenchowfu Station will bring no relief to the Board in its present financial straits.
- VI. The very suggestion of abandonment will have a bad effect on the Church.



Rev. Ward Hartman



Rev. J. Frank Bucher
and family

Teachers and Pupils
Girls' School
Shenchowfu



Mrs. Ward Hartman

T H E S H E N C H O W F U S T A T I O N

THE IMMEDIATE NEEDS

The Mission asks for the following workers, buildings and equipment :

YOCHOW STATION

WORKERS—

One Evangelistic Missionary.
One Woman Evangelist.
Two Teachers for Lakeside School.

BUILDINGS—

Two Residences at Lakeside.
House for Chinese Teachers, Lakeside.
Chapel at Lakeside.
Woman's Wing, Hoy Memorial Hospital.
Equipment, Schools and Hospital.

SHENCHOWFU STATION

WORKERS—

Two Teachers for Boys' School.
One Evangelistic Missionary.
One Woman Evangelist.
One Trained Nurse.

BUILDINGS—

Two Missionary Residences.
Equipment, School and Hospital.

In order that the Evangelistic Department may more effectually accomplish the task set for it, there should be two families at Huayung, and one family at Changteh. This would involve the purchase of ground at Huayung and Changteh, the erection of two chapels and three missionary residences.

ESTIMATED COST

The above estimate will provide for the present needs. It will mean an annual outlay of \$15,000. The immediate buildings and equipment will cost about \$30,000.



MEN'S HOSPITAL, SHENCHOWFU CHINA

THE DOOR IS OPEN IN CHINA

Various missionaries throughout China look to an opening up of the Chinese people to the influence of the Gospel of Christ, in the near future, in a marvellous manner and on a large scale. There can be no doubt of the great possibilities that lie before the two stations of our Mission in China. It is a solemn challenge to the Church, and it behooves us to seriously ponder the situation. Dr. Hoy writes: "The greatest, the most inviting, the most promising, the most impressive mission field in the world today is China." The Christian workers in all lands

are of one mind as to the opportunity for service in China. No other mission field deserves so large a hearing, or calls so loudly for help.

Never was there such a call for strong men and earnest women to go the whole length of devotion to a great cause. Now is the day of salvation for China. Do we see it? Will we believe it? As a Church we are able to discharge our obligation to the Chinese. Are we willing to do it? God grant at this crisis we may not fail to enter the open door while it remains open, and thus share in the greatest opportunity for Christian effort since the coming of our Lord.



Miss M. Bridenbaugh



STANDING—MISS ROSE SPANGLER, REV. F. K. HEINRICHSOHN
MISS REBECCA MESSIMER, DR. AND MRS. KELLY
SITTING—MRS. F. K. HEINRICHSOHN, MISS RUTH HAHN

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE REFORMED CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES
 REFORMED CHURCH BUILDING :: :: FIFTEENTH AND RACE STREETS :: :: PHILADELPHIA

**GOD HAS GIVEN US THE FIELD
THE BOARD HAS SENT OUT THE WORKERS
THE CHURCH ALONE CAN PROVIDE THE FUNDS**

Mrs. Heinrich-
sohn and class
of Women
Shenchowfu
China

